

MUSICAL MENTION

JOHN RANDOLPH

THE MATINEE MUSICALE.

It is to Mrs. D. A. Campbell then that Lincoln is indebted for the existence of the Matinee Musicale. Mrs. Campbell became imbued with the club idea in Chicago in the summer of 1893. She was at that time studying music herself in the patient and conscientious way which has characterized all her work, and studying also the "World's Fair" with its expansive outreaching into almost all the centres of intellectual activity.

At the World's Congress of Music Mrs. Campbell heard Mrs. Theodore Thomas deliver an address in which she discussed the influence of the woman's club in music. It must not be forgotten that Theodore Thomas, after Carl Zerkahn, is the pioneer of modern music in the United States as well as the interpreter of the purely classical. And it is he who, by organizing choral societies and clubs and in the giving of festivals, has done more than any one man to educate us in appreciation of the art which raises the soul above all earthly storms. Mrs. Campbell came back to Lincoln enthusiastic and, fortunately, determined as well; for short-lived enthusiasm is often merely a hindrance to genuine advancement.

The club idea was talked over with musical friends. In June, 1894, Mrs. Campbell, with Mrs. J. W. Winger and Miss Marie Hoover—the nucleus of the Matinee Musicale to be—sent out cards to the ladies of this city, professionals and amateurs, calling a meeting to discuss the foundation of a musical society. About twenty ladies responded to the call. At the first meeting Mrs. Campbell was appointed temporary chairman, the matter of forming a permanent organization was discussed, and a committee was appointed to draw up a provisional constitution. At the next meeting a few weeks later organization was perfected and officers were elected. I may state in this place, that the club very wisely showed its appreciation of Mrs. Campbell's ability by making her its president as she had been its founder, and it is a matter of record that she has remained its president until the present day throughout the three years of its existence.

Other officers elected at that time were Mrs. E. H. Eddy, vice-president; Mrs. A. S. Raymond, recording secretary; Mrs. Kate Stoddard, corresponding secretary; Mrs. J. B. Wright, treasurer, and Miss G. G. Griffith, librarian. Besides these officers an executive board and program and reception committee were appointed with Mrs. P. V. M. Raymond as musical director.

The charter members of the club, so far as I have been able to find out, were as follows: Mrs. George B. Bell, Mrs. Mary E. Butler, Mrs. E. H. Barbour, Mrs. O. B. Campbell, Miss Grace G. Griffith, Mrs. Emma Hagenow, Mrs. Nora S. Holm, Miss Marie Hoover, Mrs. Will Owen Jones, Mrs. Belle W. Lippincott, Miss Louise Miller, Mrs. Jessie Sudduth Nissley, Mrs. Jessie Findley Noble, Mrs. Carrie B. Raymond, Mrs. M. E. Raymond, Miss Clara M. Richardson, Mrs. Jennie M. Sanderson, Miss Kate Stoddard, Mrs. Evangeline Winger, Mrs. H. B. Ward, Mrs. A. W. Jansen, Mrs. Wurzburg, Mrs. Doane, Miss Jessie Gaylord.

The object of this club, as stated in the constitution, is "to advance the interests and promote the culture of musical art in the city of Lincoln, and for the mutual improvement of its members." The members are divided into two classes, active and associate, with the difference that active members participate in the programs given by the

club, while associate members—admitted from the first—have all the privileges of the club, but shall not vote, and do not assist at the concerts of the club. A new feature has been added this year in the student membership of the society, which allows talented students to be present at the meetings in order that they may receive benefit from the study and performance of the works of the greater composers. In a club of this nature it would be manifestly unwise to confine the active participants to professional musicians, but it is safe to say that a rigid carefulness exists in regard to the fitness of possible candidates to active membership. Moreover the programs given have been so uniformly of a high order with systematic study of composers of no slight merit that much more amateurish performances should be accepted with respect.

During the first two years of the club's history the greater composers were studied chronologically, beginning wisely with the great name of Johann Sebastian Bach, continuing at intervals of two weeks with Handel, Haydn, Gluck, Mozart, Pocherini, Clementi, Cherubini, Hummel, Beethoven, Riez, Spohr, Auber, Boieldieu, Weber, Rossini, Meyerbeer and Moscheles.

The year 1895-6 found the club flourishing and at work upon Schubert, Flotow, Field, Donizetti, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Schumann, Julius Benedict, Henselt, Bellini, Berlioz, Thalberg, Liszt, Wagner, Gade, Gounod, Abt, Brahms, Thomas, Raff and Rubinstein. Truly an imposing array this! It is only fair to Mrs. J. H. Winger to say that the labor of choosing and preparing these programs as well as those of the open meetings of the club during this time fell largely upon her, and that to her is due a large measure of their success. In the programs of the club, one day was devoted to each great master, while lesser ones were taken up more rapidly.

The season of 1896-7 found the club with largely increased membership both active and associate, with student and chorus members.

I append as a matter of record a full list of the present membership of the Matinee Musicale.

Mrs. E. Lewis Baker, Mrs. Georgie B. Bell, Mrs. Mary E. Butler, Mrs. E. H. Barbour, Mrs. Elias Baker, Mrs. E. A. Becker, Mrs. O. C. Campbell, Miss Carol C. Churchill, Mrs. Alice C. Doane, Miss Silence Dales, Miss Ina Ensign, Miss Lillie Eiche, Mrs. E. H. Eddy, Miss Sallie Furnas, Miss Grace Griffith, Mrs. Nora S. Holm, Miss Marie Hoover, Mrs. L. J. Herzog, Mrs. R. A. Holyoke, Mrs. Will Owen Jones, Mrs. A. W. Jansen, Mrs. C. S. Lippincott, Miss Louise Miller, Miss Anna L. Miller, Mrs. A. R. Mitchell, Mrs. H. R. Nissley, Mrs. G. W. Noble, Miss Maude Oakley, Miss Katherine Odell, Mrs. P. W. Plank, Miss Minnie Parker, Mrs. Carrie B. Raymond, Mrs. A. S. Raymond, Miss Harriett Reynolds, Miss Grace Reynolds, Miss Stella Rice, Miss Maud Risser, Mrs. Jennie M. Sanderson, Miss Kate Stoddard, Miss Susie Scofield, Miss Bessie Turner, Mrs. J. W. Winger, Mrs. H. B. Ward, Mrs. J. B. Wright, Mrs. J. Wurzburg, Mrs. Albert Watkins.

Associate Members—Mrs. H. A. Babcock, Mrs. J. A. Buckstaff, Mrs. C. M. Crawford, Mrs. Wellington England, Mrs. C. H. Gere, Mrs. Samuel Hall, Mrs. Stephen Hoover, Mrs. J. B. Horton, Mrs. A. W. Lane, Mrs. Anna McCormick, Mrs. J. L. Kellogg, Mrs. Richard O'Neil, Mrs. Oliver Rodgers, Mrs. C. D. Traphagen, Mrs. W. C. Wilson, Dr. Ruth Wood, Mrs. Mark Woods.

Student Members—Miss Amber Barnaby, Miss Pearl Barnaby, Miss Edith

Burlington, Miss Harriett Cook, Miss Evelyn Hoagland, Mrs. Charles Jones, Miss Agnes McLaughlin, Miss Mabel Metcalf, Miss Anna Nowlan, Mrs. O. A. Robinson, Mrs. W. B. Rose, Miss Helena Redford, Miss Tillie Weckbach.

Chorus Members—Miss Daisy Bell, Mrs. John Cunningham, Miss Don Carlos, Mrs. A. Dobson, Mrs. Walter Davis, Mrs. O. J. Junge, Miss Ella Kaufman, Miss Dena Loomis, Mrs. R. H. Oakley, Miss O'Neil, Miss Edith Risser, Mrs. Talmage, Miss Marie West.

The programs for this year (1896-7) have been under the efficient control of Mrs. A. W. Jansen and have been and are to continue in the following order:

Oct. 19—French composers—Massenet, Saint Saens, Godard, Chaminade.

Nov. 2—Scandinavian Program.

Swedish—Soderman, Lindblad, Rocke.

Danish—Gade, Lassen.

Norwegian—Grieg, Svendsen, Kjerulf.

Nov. 15—German program—Bach, Beethoven, Handel, Haydn.

Nov. 30—Modern German—Franz, Jensen, Hiller, Schumann, Reinecke.

Dec. 14—Austrian, Hungarian and Bohemian—Schubert, Strauss, Goldmark, Liszt, Dvorak, Hauser.

Jan. 11—Open meeting. Christmas music.

Jan. 25—Miscellaneous program.

Feb. 3—Study of the Orchestra.

Feb. 22—American program—McDowell, Nevins, Mrs. Beach, Margaret Lang, Dudley Buck, Arthur Foote, Wilson Smith, William Mason, Indian songs.

March 8—Russian and Polish program.

Russian—Glinka, Wieniawski, Morzkowski, Tchaikowski, Leachetitzki, Rubenstein.

Polish—Chopin, Paderewski, Scharwenka.

March 22—English program—Purcell, Cowen, Sterndale, Bennett, Sullivan, Smart, Tours, Bishop.

April 5—Italian program—Pergolesi, Scarlatti, Paganini, Verdi, Mattei, Boito, Mascagni, Sgambati.

April 19—Irish, Scotch and Welsh songs.

May 3—Open meeting.

It has been the custom of this club always to have a paper read by a member of the club, prepared by herself, discussing the art and life of the composer whose works form the program of the day. The meetings of the Matinee Musicale have been modest and, in fact semi-private in the past, but it seems to me it should give the public a more frequent opportunity of hearing so highly educational and artistic an organization.

On Tuesday evening, February 2nd, the long promised musicale of Mrs. Chas. S. Lippincott materialized at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Richards. The following program was given:

March of the Pasha's Guard from Taborco.....Chadwick

Bucyrus Mandolin Club.

Ave Maria (Intermezzo Cavalleria Rusticana).....Mascagni

Violin and Cello Obligato.

Vivace Assai, op. 64, No. 3.....Haydn

Hagenow String Quartet.

Fior di Margherita.....Arditi

Dost Thou Know That Sweet Land (Mignon).....Ambroise Thomas

Ich liebe dich.....Grieg

Bolero—A minor.....Chopin

Miss Marie F. Hoover.

Da Telen—Tano, }.....Venzano

Ah! Che a Soria, }.....Donizetti

Say Once Again, I Love Thee (Don Paquale).....Donizetti

Mrs. Lippincott, Mr. Haydn Myer.

Don't Be Cross.....Carl Zeller

Bucyrus Mandolin Club.

A Life Lesson.....Jules Jordan

La Manola.....Bourgeois

Slumber.....Newcomb

Minuet Celebre.....Boccherini

Am Abend.....Weissenborn

Hagenow String Quartet.

Accompanist—Mr. John Randolph.

This was one of the most attractive functions I have attended in Lincoln, even if I did assist. (I am compelled to mention this fact, and do so frankly in the hope of disarming criticism.) The house was resplendent, thronged with fair women in radiant toilets. Of course the other set was apologetically present in the conventional garb of society, but in the presence of so much beauty the men looked as much out of place as if they were attending their own weddings. Mrs. Lippincott sang her very best, with good style and usually correct intonation. She was assisted by Miss Marie Hoover who, despite a severe cold, played with her accustomed finish and with more strength than usual. The Hagenow String Quartet played several numbers, and Mr. Haydn Myer was heard to good advantage in a duet from Donizetti. The Bucyrus Club at a second hearing deepened the favorable impression created at their concert of a few weeks ago. They were tuneful and had a due regard for the rhythmic properties. There is surely a place on our concert stage for a club which so satisfies both the aural and optic sense.

An artistically rendered program of piano music was given Monday evening by several of Mrs. Plank's pupils at her studio, 1111 H street. The numbers all showed earnest study and musical feeling, and were heard with evident pleasure by an audience which filled the rooms. Conversation and ices followed the music.

PROGRAM.

Cruppey.....Bourree

Friedrich.....Waltz

Schytte....."Blindekukh"

Miss Bertha Williams.

Deiwee....."Serenade"

Miss Lizzie Young.

Durand.....Chaconne

Grieg.....Scherso

Mrs. Paul Holm.

Grieg....."Daybreak"

Chaminade....."The Flatterer"

Mrs. Henry Mayer.

Larollie....."Le Papillon"

Miss Katherine Kimball.

Mrs. Plank added four numbers.

A DESERVED PUNISHMENT.

"You see that new arrival over yonder, sitting on the asbestos brimstone barrels?"

It was Satan who thus addressed one of his chief imps.

"I do, sire."

"I mean the one with the bicycle face and the pronounced curvature of the spine, who came in yesterday's consignment from Chicago."

"I have my eye on him, your majesty."

"Have him basted for six months with boiling oil, and after that give him hypodermic injections of burning brimstone at hourly intervals for the month following. Then report to me for further instructions."

"May I enquire the occasion for such extraordinary attention on your part for this particular individual, your majesty?"

"I heard him allude to me as the Napoleon of Scorchers."—The Kicker.

Customer—I see that you advertise to supply cyclists with necessary parts to replace those lost or damaged by accident.

Cycle Dealer—Yes, sir.

Customer (taking out his list)—Well, please give me two fingers and a thumb for a gentleman of fifty, a decent sort of a rose for a girl of nineteen, a left leg for my mother-in-law, two right and three left ribs for myself—and, say, just send a man up and measure my wife for a broken neck. She hasn't got it yet, but she's getting there.

A little boy observed when asked why he remained on his knees after he had finished his prayer. "Well, mother, you know it says in the bym, 'Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees'; so I thought I'd make him shake a little longer."—Watchman.